

OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION 660 North St., Suite 300, Jackson, MS 39202

www.mfc.ms.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2010

Contact: Russell Bozeman Forest Protection and Information (601) 359-2841

Statewide Burn Ban Lifted

Jackson, MS – Effective November 3, 2010, Governor Haley Barbour has issued a letter lifting the statewide burn ban. The lift is a result of increased precipitation, forecasted weather patterns and decreased fire occurrence.

However, some areas of the state have not received sufficient precipitation and the counties in those areas may remain under a burn ban. MFC responded to 33 wildfires statewide over the Halloween weekend that burned a total of 138 acres. This is still an elevated number. For a full list of counties that will remain under a burn ban, please visit our website at www.mfc.ms.gov. We will continue to update the list as soon as situations change, so please check back periodically.

So far this fiscal year, MFC has responded to 1,447 wildfires that have burned 11,427 acres. The MFC is encouraging the public to continue to take safety measures when using and working with fire. We are entering our normal fire season, which usually coincides with our first frost. The frost causes vegetation to die back. If we enter into another drought after the frost, which has been forecasted for our state, we will again enter a wildfire risk period.

For information regarding our current wildland fire situation, or for information on how to protect yourself and your property from devastating wildfires, contact the MFC at the information above.

###